When Hindrances Help

WHEN HINDRANCES HELP.

Jas.1:12 Blessed is the man that endureth temptation; for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.

One cannot go thru life without facing trials and temptations of one kind or another. Without them no moral fibre and force of character could be developed. The muscle are developed thru exercise. Muscular exercise is muscular action against some inertia, some dead weight- the heavier the weight the greater the exercise. Character development is gained on the same principle of striving against opposition of some kind, the more formidable the opposition the greater the development. A person that has never been tried has no character, except in patency only. When put thru the fires of adversity he may come out the stronger for it or he may be badly burned, as many are.

A strange thing about the hindrances of life is that no one likes them and we all try to avoid them, and yet we practically owe to them the most precious thing we possess, namely, our characters. We all like clear sailing. We all like to do our sailing in a dead calm. We want the success without the effort; we want our reward without having to pay for it. We enjoy our times of prosperity and peace; but we try to forget our hard times, our struggles and sacrifices, our failures and losses.

The Aposple Paul gloried in his trials and hardships. Ought not we to be at least thankful to Almighty God for the great blessing which comes to us by means of them? The Bible says, "Now no chastening for the present seems to be joyous, but grievous; nevertheless, afterward it yieldeth the peaceful fruit of righteousness unto all that are exercised thereby".

It is claimed by those who are supposed to know that there are 95 failures in life to 5 successes. Evidently 95 out of every 100 are chushed by their hindrances instead of made stronger. This seems all out of proportion until we give some thot to the matter.

Some fail because of their successes.

Others fail because they have been helped instead of having been made to help themselves. Inheritance. Setting up of son in business.

Natural brightness, quick wit and bluff have led many to their ruin.

The number of those who have failed because the obstacles

to their success have been too severe and crushing is comparatively small.

I doubt if 5 out of the 95 who fail can excuse themselves on the ground that their opposing circumstances could not possibly be overcome.

Blessed is the man that endureth temptations. This gives us the secret of success. We learn to walk by walking. We learn to write by writing. We learn to work by working We learn to bear the responsibilities by bearing them.

The same holds true for the religious life. We lear to pray by praying. We learn to read the Bible by reading it. We learn to serve by doing Xn work. We learn to trust God by ~~trusting the Almighty~~ and believing in Him. We learn to overcome our temptations by facing them in the might of God's strength and in the power of God's Word.

Read Dr.Coats acrostic. When we become living Epistle then are we equipped to conquer.

Why do so many of our Gpspel hymns grip our hearts so strongly? Because these precious songs have come from hearts sorely tried.

A story is told of a little bird that would never sing the song its master thot it should sing. It would snatch a note from this bird and another note from that bird but it had no great song of its own. In desperation its master put the bird all by itself in a dark room. After a long silence the bird began to sing. At first the song was rather broken, but the bird kept on trying until there came to it a definite song of its own, whicch it began to sing repeatedly and vigorously. Then when the master brot the bird out into the light and near the other birds, it kept on singing its own soyous song.

Out of the darkness of trial and temptation Christians learn to sing the song of triumph

Did you ever hear the parable about the wingless birds? According to it birds at first had no wings. They could sing and had beautiful plumage, but no wings. Then God made the wings, put them down before the birds and said, "Come, take these burdens up and bear them" And so the birds took the wings up by their beaks and laid them on their shoulders to carry. At first the sings seemed heavy loads and hard to bear. But as they cheerfully and bravely bore them, lo the wings grew fast t to their shoulders and became pinions. That which they once bore now carried them sailing thru the air.

We too are wingless birds. Our duties are our wings. At first they seem heavy burdens to carry. But as we cheerfully bear them on, as we obediently take up the tasks God gives us, as we meet the difficulties of life, our burdens become pinions, wings that lift us heavenward!

Let us then, with Paul, "glory in tribulation also, knowing that tribulation worketh patience; and patience experience; and experience hope: and hope maketh not ashamed because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts."